Opinion piece, by Scott Jaspers-Fayer

I was astonished to see from what a beautiful field had turned into within the last 15 years. As a young boy, I moved away from California to attend a boarding school. Upon returning 15 years later, I went to visit my favorite park from my childhood; however, all that remained was 2 gigantic mountains of used tires.

As I began to stroll down the path between the two mountains I started thinking to myself, where did these all come from? There must have been thousands upon thousands of tires piled up as high as I could see. It was just a constant reminder of the wasteful society California has become. ‘Couldn’t there have been a use for all these old tires’ I thought to myself. They couldn’t melt them to turn them into something new, to re-use and reduce the waste they are producing. What about the space they have taken up, my favorite park has been turned into a dump.

I decided to do something about this. I inquired with various politicians about this dumpsite, and was saddened by the news. The tire companies make their tires with toxic chemicals, and to try and melt them down or reuse them would just release more chemicals into the air. So that is quite the conundrum, as there is no use for these thousands of tires, other than to be a site for sore eyes. I blame this on the tire companies by using harsh reactants, and creating a basically non-reusable item that people can only use for a few years, and then have to discard. At this rate, our entire world will be full of useless garbage in no time.